

PAYMENT OF MEDICAL EXPENSES BY U.S. PARK POLICE

The bill (H.R. 4404) to permit the payment of medical expenses incurred by the United States Park Police in the performance of duty to be made directly by the National Park Service, to allow for waiver and indemnification in mutual law enforcement agreements between the National Park Service and a State or political subdivision when required by State law, and for other purposes, was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

AUTHORIZING THE ATTORNEY GENERAL TO PROVIDE GRANTS TO FIND MISSING ADULTS

Mr. BROWNBAC. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of H.R. 2780, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2780) to authorize the Attorney General to provide grants for organizations to find missing adults.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. President, I rise today to thank my colleagues for supporting Kristen's Act. Representative SUE MYRICK introduced this essential crime prevention legislation on the House side, and I introduced the Senate companion. With the Senate's action today, this measure will be set to become law. I am grateful to Representative MYRICK for her tireless efforts towards ensuring that Kristen's Act becomes law. The legislation will help public agencies and nonprofit organizations provide desperately needed assistance to law enforcement and families in locating involuntarily missing adults.

I would also like to thank Senators LEAHY and HATCH. They deserve special praise for their constant support of victim advocacy initiatives and their fight to put a stop to crime in our Nation.

Kristen's Law was inspired by the story of a young woman from North Carolina, Kristen Modafferi. On June 23, 1997, just three weeks after her 18th birthday, Kristen disappeared. Despite tireless efforts by law enforcement to locate Kristen, she has not been seen since. And tragically, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children was unable to assist with the search, all because Kristen had passed the age of 18.

Unfortunately, Kristen's story is not unique. Numerous other cases involving the disappearance of young adults are reported to authorities every year. During 1999, in North Carolina, the Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office received reports of 132 missing persons ages 18 through 21. That's the number for just one age group, in just one county, in just one state in the coun-

try. When we look at nationwide statistics for missing adults, what we find is staggering. For example, as of February 1999, the FBI reported that there were more than 38,000 active missing person entries for adults over the age of eighteen. This is frighteningly large number.

That is why I believe that Kristen's Act is a necessary protective measure. It will not only provide some comfort to the millions of parents who send their children to college every year and worry about their safety, but it will help ensure that when an adult of any age is determined missing due to foul play, a national effort will be mobilized to help.

When a person involuntarily disappears, time is of the essence. Search efforts must begin quickly, and they must reach across jurisdictions. Abducted individuals are often taken across state lines. In order to effectively coordinate a search, the groups conducting the search must have an easy way to share information with each other, no matter how far away from one another they may be. Kristen's Act will help facilitate communication between search parties through the establishment of a national database to track involuntarily missing adults.

The greater the number of agencies helping in the search, the more likely it is that the person will be found. But there is no central organization that exists to aid law enforcement in their efforts to locate missing adults. Unfortunately, Kristen's tragic story illustrates the need for such an organization. Kristen's Act will help enable this to happen by providing funds to help establish a national clearinghouse for missing adults.

Mr. President, I believe that it is important to mention that it is true that some individuals may disappear because they want to. Some of these individuals may live in abusive households. Others may want to start a new life. And because they are considered legal adults, they have the choice to remain missing. In these cases, it may not make sense of law enforcement, the Center, or anyone else to launch a search.

That is why I believe the Attorney General should ensure that under Kristen's Act, grants will be given out only to organizations that have demonstrated they have in place clear, effective methods of distinguishing between disappearances that are voluntary and those that may involve foul play. And that is why Kristen's Act specifies that if a national database is set up, it will be used to track only those missing adults who have first been determined by law enforcement to be endangered due to age, diminished mental capacity or suspicious circumstances.

There are many individuals who really do need help. In those instances, Kristen's Act sends a message to families that they deserve whatever assist-

ance is necessary to locate endangered and involuntarily missing loved ones. The bill will help ensure that all involuntarily missing adults—regardless of age—will receive not only the benefit of search efforts by law enforcement, but also by experienced, specialized organizations.

Mr. President, I believe we must do everything we can to prevent situations like the one that Kristen Modafferi and her family have suffered through. The bill we passed today goes a long way toward achieving this goal. Again, I commend my colleagues for recognizing its importance.

Mr. BROWNBAC. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read the third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements related to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 2780) was read the third time and passed.

MILITARY EXTRATERRITORIAL JURISDICTION ACT OF 2000

Mr. BROWNBAC. Mr. President, I ask the Chair lay before the Senate a message from the House of Representatives on the bill S. 768.

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the House of Representatives.

Resolved, That the bill from the Senate (S. 768) entitled "An Act to establish court-martial jurisdiction over civilians serving with the Armed Forces during contingency operations, and to establish Federal jurisdiction over crimes committed outside the United States by former members of the Armed Forces and civilians accompanying the Armed Forces outside the United States", do pass with the following amendments:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Military Extraterritorial Jurisdiction Act of 2000".

SEC. 2. FEDERAL JURISDICTION.

(a) CERTAIN CRIMINAL OFFENSES COMMITTED OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES.—Title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting after chapter 211 the following new chapter:

"CHAPTER 212—MILITARY EXTRATERRITORIAL JURISDICTION

"Sec.

"3261. Criminal offenses committed by certain members of the Armed Forces and by persons employed by or accompanying the Armed Forces outside the United States.

"3262. Arrest and commitment.

"3263. Delivery to authorities of foreign countries.

"3264. Limitation on removal.

"3265. Initial proceedings.

"3266. Regulations.

"3267. Definitions.

"§3261. Criminal offenses committed by certain members of the Armed Forces and by persons employed by or accompanying the Armed Forces outside the United States

"(a) Whoever engages in conduct outside the United States that would constitute an offense punishable by imprisonment for more than 1 year if the conduct had been engaged in within the special maritime and territorial jurisdiction of the United States—